

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A method of discharging a liquid droplet, comprising:

providing a liquid discharging apparatus comprising

a metering tube having a discharge port communicating to outside, and

a plunger whose tip face closely contacts an inner wall surface of the metering tube,

moving forward and stopping the plunger ~~sliding while closely contacting with an inner wall face of the metering tube~~ over a plurality of times during a forward movement process of the plunger, thereby discharging the liquid material in the metering tube from the discharge port over a plurality of times; and

controlling moving speed of the plunger from a start of a deceleration to a stop of the plunger in the ~~[[step]]~~ steps of moving forward and stopping the plunger such that a discharge quantity of the liquid droplet discharged from the discharge port becomes constant at every discharge,

wherein the liquid material in the metering tube is discharged from the discharge port over a plurality of times during the forward movement process of the plunger.

2. (Currently amended) A method of discharging a liquid droplet of claim 1, wherein the ~~plunder~~ plunger having an air bubble removing means.

3. (Previously presented) A method of discharging a liquid droplet, wherein the liquid droplet discharged by the method of the claim 1 or 2 is applied onto a work.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) An apparatus for discharging a liquid material, comprising:
a metering tube having a discharge port communicating to outside;
a plunger whose tip face closely contacts an inner wall surface of the metering tube;; and
a control means controlling ~~an operation of the plunger sliding while closely contacting with an inner wall face of the metering tube~~ a forward movement process of the plunger, thereby discharging the liquid material in the metering tube from the discharge port over plurality of times during the forward movement process of the plunger,

wherein the control means controls a moving speed of the plunger from a start of a deceleration to a stop of the plunger in the ~~[[step]]~~ steps of moving forward and stopping the plunger such that a discharge quantity of the liquid droplet discharged from the discharge port becomes constant at every discharge.

6. (Original) An apparatus for discharging a liquid material of claim 5, comprising an input means indicating the moving speed of the plunger moving forward from start of deceleration to stop to the control means.

7. (Original) An apparatus for discharging a liquid material of claim 6, wherein the control means controls the operation of the plunger on the basis of data concerning the moving speed of the plunger moving forward from start of deceleration to stop, which has been inputted by the input means.

8. (Currently amended) A method of ~~discharging~~ discharging a liquid droplet of claim 1 or 2, wherein the plunger is moved by a motor and controlling moving speed of the plunger by controlling a rotation ~~rotation~~ rotation of operation of the motor. (~~Claim 4 in the Mr. Sudo's draft~~
~~Amend~~)

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus for discharging a liquid material of claim 5, 6, or 7, wherein the ~~plunder~~ plunger having an air bubble removing means.

10. (Currently amended) A apparatus of discharging a liquid material of claim 5, 6, or 7, wherein the plunger is moved by a motor and the control means controls moving speed of the ~~plunder~~ plunger by controlling a rotation of operation of the motor.